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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/789,152	02/27/2004	Motokazu Yasui	43780.011401	8994
22850	7590	04/04/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			NGUYEN, ANTHONY H	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2854		
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS	04/04/2007		ELECTRONIC	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 04/04/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/789,152	YASUI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Anthony H. Nguyen	2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3,5-12 and 18-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3,5-12 and 18-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 24, 2007 has been entered.

***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blackman et al. (US 6,029,020) in view of Konishi (JP 05-131696).

With respect to claims 1, 3 and 5, Blackman et al. teaches an ink jet recording apparatus 10 having means for recording or an ink jet recording head 12 for printing downwardly on a recording sheet and a sheet feeding mechanism or a holding device 22,59,78,80 which is configured to feed a recording sheet from a tray 110 via a pick up roller 59 through a first path 114 and second path 52 so that a portion of a printed sheet is fed to a location outside or a sheet output tray 124 and the sheet is fed back to the ink jet recording head for printing the other side

of the sheet via a controller 18 (Blackman et al., Figs.1 and 5-10, col.3 lines 51-57 and col.9, first paragraph). Blackman et al. does not clearly teach the housing which houses the ink jet recording head and the sheet feeding mechanism or the holding device which keeps the sheet substantially straight from the ink jet recording head. Konishi teaches an ink jet printer having a housing 1 which houses an ink jet recording head 8 for printing on two sides of a record sheet (P) and a sheet feeding mechanism 6, 10 and 12 which feeds a portion of a printed sheet to a location outside or a sheet output tray 11 and keeps the sheet substantially straight from the ink jet recording head as shown in Fig.1 of Konishi. In view of the teaching of Konishi, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the inkjet recording apparatus of Blackman et al. by providing the housing as taught by Konishi for quickly drying of a just recorded sheet outside of the housing. With respect to claim 8, note that a portion of the reversing path 52 of Blackman et al. is disposed away from the substantially straight and horizontal path as shown in Figs.5,6 and 9 of Blackman et al. With respect to claims 18- 21, Blackman et al. teaches the conventional controller 18 which is configured to control the feeding mechanism and the time period which varies depending on humidity before allowing the recording sheet to be fed to the second path (Blackman et al., col.9 lines 8-22).

Claims 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blackman et al. in view of Konishi as applied to claims 1, 3, 5 and 18-21 above, and further in view of Kulpa (US 5,560,595).

With respect to claim 6, Blackman et al. and Konishi teach all that is claimed, except the use of sensor that senses a sheet located between the print head and the ejection roller. Kulpa teaches the conventional use of a sensor 29 that senses a sheet between the print head 19 and the rejection roller 113 as shown in Fig.1 of Kulpa. In view of the teaching of Kulpa, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the recording apparatus of Blackman et al. and Konishi by providing the sensor located between the print head and the ejection roller as

***Response to Arguments***

Applicants' arguments filed on January 24, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive of any error in view of the new ground(s) of rejection(s).

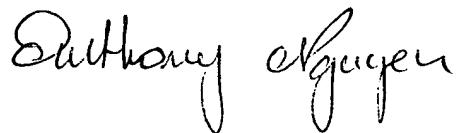
***Conclusion***

The patent to Saraswat et al. is are cited to show other structure having obvious similarities to the claimed structure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2169.

The examiner can normally be reached daily from 9 AM to 5PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen, can be reached on (571) 272-2258.

The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.



Anthony Nguyen  
03/29/2007  
Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800